

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Withdrawn) A control agent or material for plant diseases comprising bacteria of the genus *Bacillus* capable of inhibiting infection with or proliferation of plant pathogenic bacteria, fungi, or viruses.

2. (Withdrawn) The control agent or material according to claim 1, wherein the bacteria of the genus *Bacillus* capable of inhibiting infection with or proliferation of plant pathogenic bacteria, fungi, or viruses are of the DAIJU-SIID2550 strain (accession number: FERM BP-10114) or a mutant thereof.

3. (Withdrawn) The control agent or material according to claim 1, wherein the plant pathogenic bacteria are of the genus *Agrobacterium*, *Clavibacter*, *Erwinia*, *Pseudomonas*, *Ralstonia*, *Corynebacterium*, *Curtobacterium*, *Burkholderia*, or *Xanthomonas*, and the plant diseases are caused thereby.

4. (Withdrawn) The control agent or material according to claim 1, wherein the plant pathogenic fungi are airborne or soil-borne fungi, and the plant diseases are caused thereby.

5. (Withdrawn) The control agent or material according to claim 1, wherein the plant pathogenic viruses are *Tobacco mosaic virus*, *Pepper mild mottle virus*, *Tomato mosaic virus*, melon necrotic spot viruses *Melon necrotic spot virus*, *Cucumber green mottle mosaic virus*, or *Kyuri green mottle mosaic virus*, and the plant diseases are caused thereby.

6. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling plant diseases comprising application ~~of the~~ of a control agent or material according to claim 1 for plant diseases comprising a bacterium which is the DAIJU-SIID2550 strain (accession number: FERM BP-10114) to a host plant of ~~the~~ plant pathogenic bacteria, fungi, or viruses.

7. (Original) The method according to claim 6, wherein the plant belongs to *Brassicaceae*, *Solanaceae*, *Cucurbitaceae*, *Liliaceae*, *Leguminosae*, *Asteraceae*,

Chenopodiaceae, Gramineae, Rosaceae, Caryophyllaceae, Primulaceae, Rutaceae, Vitaceae, Actinidiaceae, Ebenaceae, Umbelliferae, Convolvulaceae, or Araceae.

8. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 6, wherein the control agent or material is applied to plants by at least one process selected from the group of processes consisting of coating plant seeds with the ~~bacteria~~bacterium, soaking plant seeds in a suspension ~~containing~~containing the ~~bacteria~~bacterium, perfusion of the ~~bacteria~~bacterium in soil for plant cultivation, incorporation of the ~~bacteria~~bacterium in soil for plant cultivation, spraying the ~~bacteria~~bacterium on plant stem or foliage, and contact of the ~~bacteria~~bacterium with plant damages.

9. (Withdrawn) A novel bacterial strain of the genus *Bacillus*, DAIJU-SIID2550 (accession number: FERM BP-10114).